DECISION IN THE CASE OF GEN. McDOWELL.

The Court of Inquiry in the case of Gen. McDowell have rendered their decision in the form of a lengthy document, in which the principal points elicited on the trial are presented and reviewed. The following extracts will inform the reader of the decisions of the court on the questions submitted to them. It will be remembered that no charges were formally preferred against Gen. McDowell, but that the court was organized at his own request, and that he suggested the several points of inquiry in order that his whole conduct might be subjected to a full judicial investigation. The result is a complete vindication of the General on every charge or imputation suggested, with one exception, and in expressing its disapproval of his conduct in that case the court exculpate him from any un-

this period be was under the command of Gen. McClellan, and it appears by the concurrent testimony of every officer who has testified on the subject, and the court report the fact to be, that he was energetic, intelligent, faithful, and without repreach in the performance of the duties of

his charge.

The cause of the detention of Gen. McDowell and the separation of his corps from the Army of the Potomac when that army proceeded to Fortress Monroe, to commence the campaign of the Peninsula, has been carefully

and thoroughly investigated. This investigation has revealed, and the court find the facts to be, that the detention of Gen. McDowell's corps, the amounting in the aggregate to about twenty thousand men, (and which was the whole force so detained,) was not the result of caprice, or any unworlly motive whatever, but was in execution of an order of the President which preceded the departure of the Army of the Potomac to the Peninsula, which order had the substantial concurrence of all the corps commanders, which, under the circumstances at length disclosed before this court, the safety of the capi-tal and common prodence enjoined, and which the President had reason to believe, from a report made to him by three general officers, viz. Gens. Hitchcock, Thomas, and Wadsworth, who were on the spot, and were specially instructed to invest gate the facts, had not been complied with. In this investigation and report of those Generals, and the communications which led to it, Gen. McDowell had

no share whatever. He was not consulted. He expected and desired to proceed to the Peninsula, following the other portions of the Army of the Potomac. Following the natural order of event-, and the subjects which have been the occasion of the strongest dissat sfac tion manifested toward Gen. McDowell, the court has

carefully and thoroughly investigated his operations as Commander in the Department of the Rappahannock. His army was not designed to operate beyond the limits of his own department, while the enemy continued position to mensee and occupy it, including, as it did, the city of Washington. Still this attitude of defence was not agreeable to Gen. McDowell. His mind was continually occupied with the idea of participating in the operations of the Army of the Potomac, which were then progressing

by the route of the Peninsula against Richmond With the concurrence of the President, which he yielded only when it appeared that the Army of the Rappahannock as follows was sent by Gen. Pope to Gen. McDowell, which could be safely sent forward, it was ready to move from Fredericksburg against Richmond, by the way of Hanover Court-House, on the morning of the 26th of May.

The ambition of Gen. McDowel was deeply interested in this movement. He had for a long time been devoting id be safely sent forward, it was ready to move from

the most unremitted and energetic efforts to be adequately prepared for it. So far from manifesting any reluctance to co-operate with the Army of the Potomac, the desire to render such co-operation engressed his mind and heart. Public opinion and censure were never more at fault that in imputing to Gen. McDowell a want of earnest zeal and desire to assist Gen. McClellan from Fredericksburg in the assault on Richmond. His demonstrations in that di rection were timely and useful. They led to a withdrawal of Jackson's forces from Richmond and their renewed menace against the approaches to Washington. The Army of the Penin-ula was in this manner relieved of the resist ance of a force which it must have expected to encounter, and which, numerically, was stronger than the portion of Gen. McDowell's corps (twenty thousand) which had been detained to cover Washington.

The movement of Jackson's forces down the Shenan-

doah Valley, and the jeopardy which menaced the capital, and what was then supposed to be the inflammable and the capital station, King's division, then marching eastwardly slong State of Maryland, led to an order suspending the march of Gen. McDowell on Richmond, and his recall to cover the approaches to Washington, on the 24th of May.

It is not possible to determine accurately what would have been the result of persistence in the movement at the time of McDowell's army on Richmond. Had there been great activity of movement of co operation between the armies commanded by Gens McClellan and McDowell. and Richmond been carried by assault, without a halt and without interruption by the excessive rains which flooded the rivers and streams of Virginia, on the following Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, (May 30 and 31, and June 1;) had all this been successfully accomplished before Jackson could have gained any countervailing advantages against the Capital and in the State of Maryland, it is quite obvious that Gen. McDowell would have been justified by the re-sults, in his opinion, that it was inexpedient to recall him from his projected movement against Richmond. The court has not found it necessary to decide this hypothetical question. It will remain a fruitful subject of conjec--perhaps of recrimination-until a time of peace may reveal all the circumstances calculated to elucidate it

If it be doubtful whether Gen. McDowell ought to have allowed his mind to be so occupied with a campaign be youd the limits of his own department, it is perfectly clear that he yielded a prompt submission to the orders of the President, and, without reservation or evasion and with the most commendable abscrity, pushed forward a part of his troops toward Washington and another toward Front Royal, still leaving one division at Fr dericksburg. Instead of furnishing any occasion for censure, his whole conduct at Fredericksburg shou'd receive unqualified com-

The only correspondence of Gen. McDowell with the enemy's commanders requiring notice relates to the re-moval of Mrs. Robert E. Scott from near Warrenton, Fauquier county, Virginia, to her friends within the rebel lines, after the murder of, her husband. The and that her husband was an eminent citizen of Virginia, distinguished for his high character and loyalty to the Government. In the opinion of the Court, both humanity and pub-lic policy not only just fied but required the course of pro-cedure adopted by Gen. McDowell.

From the date of the departure of Gen. McDowell from Frederick-burg to the formation of the Army of Virginia, on the 26 h of June, 1862, in which the Army of the Rappahannock was merged, his conduct has been the sub-lect of critical investigation by the court. No particular facts were elicited which require special consideration. Throughout this period the court find that his conduct was arrepreachable. It was during this time, and while the of the Shenandosh, that Gen. McDowell sent forward McCall's division of Pennsylvania Reserves (about ten thousand strong) to the Army of the Potomac. This divi-sion reached the Chickshominy and got into position on the right of that army at Mcchanics ville about the 19 h of

June, being a week previous to the arrival of the enemy's troops under Jackson and the retirement of the Army of the Potomac to the James river.

When Gen. Pope assumed command of the Army of Virginia, on the 26th of June, 1862, although in order of rank below Gen. McDowell, he has testified that he received from that officer the most valuable and cordial cooperation and assistance. The court dwell with satisfac-tion on these fine qualities of military subordination, frequently exemplified by Gen. McDowell under sircum tances trying to the pride and emulation of a general

The conduct of Gen. McDowell at Cedar Mountain was incidentally called in question by the testimony of Gen. Sigel, during the cross-examination, as to the unfavorable impressions reating upon his mind against Gen. McDowell But no specific and tangible accusation against him could be predicated on that part of the testimony of Gen. Sig-1, nor upon any other part, except that which relates to the operations and battles in the neighborhood of Thoroughfare Gap, Gainesville, Groveton, Manassas and Bull Run, of the 28th, 29th, and 30th days of August last. In respect to the whole conduct of Gen. McDowell preceding those days, and especially the engagements of Gen. Banks with the enemy at Cedar Mountain, the court found no incident

to mosify their approval.

The conduct of Gen. McDowell on the 28th and 29th days of August, in the neighborhood of the locality best known as Manassas and Bull Run, has been the subject of specific arrangement in the evidence of Gen. Sigel, and the court have felt bound to exam ne with critical attention all

Warrenten Pike, se halled, in the direction of Centreville, Sigel's command, bound, early in the morning, that blooms and Alexandria. On the night of the 27th the head of his corps had retired. His sub equent efforts on the 29th to column, to wit, the command of Gen. Milroy in Gen. Sigel's repair the consequences of that unfortunate movement of Bristow, and pressing, with Heintzelman's corps and Re-no's division, on the troops of Jackson, which had been driven to Manassas Junction. The rebel Gen Longstreet, with the largest portion of the enemy's force, was west ell, with his whole command, including Sigel's corps and Reynolds's division, was interposed between Longstreet and Jackson, while the latter was being closely pressed by Gen. Pope, within striking distance from the direction of

Bristow and Greenwich.

From Gainesville, a highway and the Manassas railroad lead directly to Thoroughfare Gap. (which is five miles distant,) passing through Hsymarket, only two miles distant. Another highway leads to Manassas Junction, chi-fly on the south side of the radioad. The Warrenton Pike passes from Gainesville through Groveton to Centre-On the night of the 27th Gen. McDowell received rders from Gen Pope to march on Manassas, as follows :

worthy motive. They conclude their judgment by avowing the opinion that "the interests of the public service do not require any further investigation into the conduct of Major General McDowell."

EXTRACTS FROM THE REPORT.

Gen. McDowell entered on the command of a division in the Army of the Potomac on the 24th day of Magust, 1861, in which he continued until the 13th day of Ma ch., 1862, when he was assigned to the command of the first corps of the same army, in which he continued until this detention to form part of the torce for the defence of Washington, on the 4th day of April, 1862. During all this period be was under the command of Gen. McClellan, and it sunears by the consurrent testingary of every officient.

The order was assigned to the commanding.

The order was assigned to the command of Gen. McClellan, and it sunears by the consurrent testingary of every officient was a sequent to the commanding.

The order was received about two o'clock on the morning of the 28th, and the movement was directed to be made ments in all their details, the court will direct their attention to the single point in the conduct of Gen. McDowell

which they cannot pass without disapproval In the afternoon of the 28th, at 44 o'clock, the several corps and divisions were placed as follows: Ricketts' divi-sion, of McDowell's corps, was in front and on the east side of Thoroughfare Gap, holding in check the advance of Longstreet's force. Sigel's corps had been turned toward the Warrenton pike and Centreville by way of New Market. Reynolds' division was on the road leading to Manassas, near Bethlebem Church. King's division, of McLarrent the Manassas railroad and Dowell's corps, was between the Manaesas railroad and the Warrenton pike, and about two miles southwestwardly from Groveton. A small portion of Jackson's forces the main portion was at Centreville and marching toward Sudley Springs, and bearing from that point toward Groveton, on the Warrenton pike, near to which point and on the pike was collected at least fifty transportation wagons of the rebel train, headed toward Gainesville.

At the hour 1 20 P. M. Gen. Pope transmitted the fol

about the hour of 4 o'clock P. M : HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF VIRGINIA Manassas Junction, August 28, 1862—1.20 P. M.
Major Gen. McDowell: I sent you a despatch a few minutes ago directing you to move on Gum Spring to intercept Jackson. Since then I have received your note of this morning. I will this evening push forward Reno to Gainesville, and follow with Heintzelman, unless there is a large force of the enemy at Centreville, which I do not believe. Ascertain if you can, about this. I do not wish you to carry out th order to proceed to Gam Spring if you consider it too bazard

ous, but I will support you in any way you suggest by pushing forward from Manassas Junction across the unspike.

Jackson has a large train which should certainly be captured. Give me your views fully. You know the country much better than I do. Come no further in this direction. with your command, but call back what has advanced thus far.

John Pore,

Major General Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS MANASSAS JUNCTION, Aug. 28, 1862.

MAJ. GEN MCDOWELL: The enemy is reported in force on the other side of Bull Run, on the Ohio and Alexandria rail-road, as also near Centreville. I have ordered Si, el to march upon Centreville immediately, as also Kearny and Reno: I will advance Hooker as reserve. Please march immediately with your command directly upon Centreville from wher you are.

Major General Commanding.

Gen. McDowell immediately turned back King's division on to the Warrenton pike, en routs for Centreville; he then joined Reynolds' division, and, passing Bethlebem Church, turned that division northwardly towards the Warrenton pike, by the Sudley Springs road. He then proceeded himself, with a part of his staff, to Manassas Station, being distant about three miles eastwardly from the point where he had parted from Reynolds' division. He on separated himself more than ten miles from Ricketts' division, and certainly not less than six miles from King's division, being the two divisions composing his corps, and in a special manner under his command.

Just at dark, while Gen. McDowell was at Manassas

tion of rebel artillery (supposed to form portion of a re connoitering party) had shelled Gen. McDowell and checked the advance of his troops from one to two hours during e early part of the day, as they were changing direction o the right toward Manassas. In the course of the night Gen. King, on his own re-ponsibility, as he testifies, and without communicating with Gen. McDowell retired from the battle-field to a point two or three miles east of Manassas Station. At about 9 o'clock in the evening of the 28th, Gen. Ricketts had retired with his division from Thoroughfore Gap to Gainesville. Being informed of the in-tended movement of Gen. King, Gen. Ricketts retired with his division to the neighborhood of Manassas early in the morning of the 29th.

The grave error committed by these movements of Me Dowell's corps cannot be better explained than by incorporating in this report the following testimony of Gen.

Question by the Court .- Were you aware that King' divisi n had a fight with the enemy near evening of that day and after the fight fell back to Manasras? and after the fight fell back to Manascas?

Ansecr — It was reported to me about sight or nine o'clock at night on the 28th that King s division, of McDowell's corps, had met the enemy retreating from Centreville, and, after a severe fight, had remained masters of the field, still after a severe fight, had remained masters of the field, still interposing between Jackson's forces and the main body of the enemy. This report was brought to me by a staff officer, I think of Gen. King's. Upon receiving this information, I stated to reveral of my staff officers who were present that the game was in our own hands, and that I cid not see how it was possible for Jackson to escape without very heavy loss, if at all I immediately, upon receipt of this intelligence, also directed General Kearny, whose division occur led Centreyille, to push forward cantiously at one o'clock that night, in the direction of Gainesville, to drive in the picket of the enemy, and to keep himself in close contact during the night, to rest his left on the mountain turnpike and to throw of the enemy, and to keep himself in close contact during the night, to rest his left on the mountain turngise and to throw his right to the north toward the Little river, and well to the front. I derected him at the first blush of earlight to attack the enemy, with his right advanced, and informed him that Hocker and keno would be with him immediately after daylight. To my surprise and discatisfaction, I learned toward daylight on the morning of the 29th that King's division had been withdrawn in the direction of Manassas Junction, leaving of entitle road to Thorong fare Cap. This withdrawal of that division made necessary a great change in the movement and the position of the troops, and was a most serious and unlooked for mistake. I was so impressed with the necessity unlooked f r mistake I was so impressed with the necessity that that division should hild its ground, during the night of the 28th, that I seat several orders to Gen. King one by his wn staff office:) during that night to hold his ground at all hazards and to prevent the r treat of the energy; and informed him that our whole force from the direction of Central Control of the con treville and Mana-sas Junction would fall upon the enemy at

The court adopt the testimony of Gen. Pope as a faithful statement of the facts.

Had Gen. McDowell been present with his command a

my at Mechanicaville about the 19 h of the time of these movements of his corps, it could not be controverted that he would be justly held responsible for their retreat and the consequent derangements of the plan of battle then formed by Gen. Pope.

What is the explanation of Gen McDowell's absence? He went to Manassas to have a personal interview with Gen. Pope, whom he expected to find there. Granting the good faith of the explanation and Gen. McDowell's honesty of the plan of the first properties of the plan of the first properties.

f purpose, the court find that he thus separated himself rom his command at a critical time, without any order of his superior officer and without any imperative necessity.

It is true that in the first order sent to him, and received about 4 o'clock P. M., the following paragraph occurs: "will this evening push forward Reno to Gaineaville, and follow with Heintzeiman, unless there is a large force of the enemy at Centreville, which I do not believe. Accer-tain, if you can, about this." And again the following raph occurs in the same order: "Give me your fully. You know the country much better than paragraph occurs in the same order

But immediately after that order the second one was received, which disclosed that the enemy was near Centre-ville; that Sigel, Kearney, and Reno had been ordered to march upon Centreville, and directing him (Gen. Mc-Dow-ll) to march directly apon Centreville, with his command, from where he then was.

Clearly the last order contained no implication which

can justify the separation of Gen. McDowell from his corps. The moment had arrived for prompt concentration of the whole army against the rebel troops under Jackson. He knew that King's line of march was in the direction of the small force of the enemy, by which he had been assailed the testimony relating to the operations of those days.

Previous to the 27th day of August the forces of the that Longstreet was approaching by Thoroughfare Gap. on the Warrenton pike in the morning. He knew also enemy under Jackson had moved east of Thoroughfare
Gap, and came between the army under Geo. Pope and
the city of Washington. This force of Jackson was about no avail while the misconduct of his own corps thwarted the city of Warnington. This force of Jackson was about twenty-five thousand strong—probably somewhat less. On the 27th, Gen. McDowell, with his own corps and that of Gen. sigel, and Keynolds' division, had proceeded eastwardly from Warrenton toward Gamesville, across Broad Run at Buckland Mills. He was thus moving along the

CONFERNATED SMANNERANCE corps, rested at Gainesville; the rear of h s column was at Buckland Mills. At this point of time Gen. Pope was at carnest and energetic, and disclose fully that the separa-Bristow, and pressing, with Heintzelman's corps and Re-tion, of which the court has thus stated its disapproval, was inconsiderate and unauthorized, but was not induce

by any unicorthy motive.

The court also feels bound to report the fact that his commanding officer (Gen. Pope) not only omitted to hold him culpable for this separation, but emphatically com-mended his whole conduct while under his command,

without exception or qualification.

In the course of the investigation Gen. McDowell manifested a just and proper sensibility to the dissemination against him of drunkenness as well as disloyalty. The charge of dieloyalty was made by an officer of the rank of colonel, after being fatally wounded in battle. It was made in general terms, without defining any specific act. The accuser is dead, and the court does not feel at liberty to say more of it than that it is utterly destitute of any foundation in fact, that it is fully disproved by all the evidence bearing on the point, and that the dying officer who made it must have been the subject of deplorable misapprehension, like many others who have formed opinions

from calumnious rumors and presumptions.

The court denounces the charge of drunkenness against
Gen. McDowell as ridiculous. The fact is, that there is
no man in the land more free than he from all taint of such vice. Among temperate men he is proved by the testimony to belong to the most temperate, and even ab-at-mious. The court is entirely satisfied that no man ever aw a more complete performance of their important

It is to be hoped that the public misfortunes entailed such ca'umoies will in future lead to greater circumspec-tion, and receive for patriotic and meritorious soldiers more considerate treatment from the American press and

In the opinion of the court, the interests of the public service do not require any further investigation into the conduct of Major General McDowell.

the Secretary of the Tressury be and he is hereby author-ized to borrow, from time to time, on the credit of the United States, a sum not exceeding three hundred millions United States, a sum not exceeding three hundred millions of dollars for the current fiscal year, and six hundred millions for the next fiscal year, and to issue therefor coupon or registered bonds, payable at the pleasure of the Government after such periods as may be fixed by the Secretary, not less than ten nor more than forty years from date, in coin, and of such denominations not less than fifty dollars as he may deem expedient, bearing interest at a rate not exceeding six per centum per annum, payable on bonds not exceeding one hundred dollars, annually, and on all other bonds semi-annually, in coin; and he may in his discretion dispose of such bonds at any time, upon such terms as h may deem most advisable, for lawful money of the United States, or for any of the certificates of indebtedness or de posit that may at any time be unpaid, or for any of th trossury notes heretolore issued or which may be issu under the provisions of this act. And all the bonds a treasury notes or United States notes issued under th provisions of this act shall be exempt from taxation by under State or municipal authority: Provided, That there shall be outstanding of bonds, treasury notes, and United lowing order to Gen. McDowell, which was received at States notes, at any time, issued under the provisions of this act, no greater amount altogether than the sum of nine hundred millions of dollars.

A REFORM AT KEY WEST.

The Key West correspondent of the New York World gives an interesting account of an unsuccessful attempt to nforce an order issued by Col. Morgan, commander of the military force there, exiling all persons within his lines to the Confederate States in case any one of them had a blood relation who was in rebel employ. The order affected nearly every loyal man, woman, and child in the town Col. Morgan proposed embarking them on transports for Hilton Head, and thence to send them beyond the enemy's pickets. While in the act of carrying out his scheme a ressel arrived from Port Royal bringing Col. Goode and the 47th Pennsylvania volunteers, with instructions from General Hunter to relieve Col. Morgan of his post. This was done, and the order was at once rescinded, to the great joy of a heartbroken community. We extract a portion of the World's correspondence;

KEY WEST, FEBRUARY 27, 1863 If I said yesterday that Key West was the gloomies and saddest town of its size of any on which the sun the shope and over which our flag then waved. I will say to day that it is the happest and most jubilant. The steamer Cosmopolitan has arrived from Hilton Head bearing Cel. Goode and the Forty-eventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, relieving Col. Morgan and the Ninetie'l New York Volunteers, and all the illegal and absurd orders of the latter ar forthwith to be rescinded. She came none too soon. Th steamer City of Bath was already being loaded up with the exiles. The wharf at which she lay was covered with their household goods; they stood about it in sad little groups, surrounded by tearful friends bidding their final farewells. The City of Bath had steam up; her wheel Just at dark, while Gen. McDowell was at Manassas Station, King's division, then marching eastwardly along the pike, came in collision with the enemy near Groveton, and a battle ensued. The enemy were driven back the dock was a scene of confusion and distress. Suddenly some anxious watcher, looking off to the

watching for some token of coming help, discovered a steamer approaching. The genius of retribution evidently had a hand in the affair, for, besides being so singularly at the " bick of time," the strange sail came steaming swif up close to the very wharf at which Morgan's poor vic-tims were gathered. Belove she (the Cosmopolitan) had been made fast the news had spread through the crow that Morgan was superseded, and all his orders counter

Then there was a burst of wild excitement. Wom k seed their children frantically, men ran about embracing vent up into the air and came down into the water, sor of them. And so it went through all the island, and in little time the town went wild with joy, and the house were decked with flags as on a ga'a-day. Very few commu

were decked with flags as on a ga'n-day. Very few communities have seen such a sudden revulsion from grief to joy.

The reprieve came from Major General Hunter, who was probably satisfied that he had been pretty thoroughly imposed upon in regard to the people of this island. So ends for the present the reign of terror here. At receipt of the news Morgan is represented to have been a pitable sight. The sixteen officers who resigned from his regimen

CONFIRMATIONS OF DECEASED OFFICERS

The officers named below having fallen in battle after having received appointments to the higher grades in the service for which they are herein nominated, their names have been submitted to the Senate by the President for confirmation of their rank as a token of the Government's approbation of their distinguished merits. This has been the practice of the Department in similar cases, brevet nominations and confirmations having been made after the decease of gallant officers.

TO BE MAJOR GENERALS.

Brig. Gen. Philip Kearny, U. S. Volunteers, July 4, 862. [Killed in the battle of Chantilly.]
Brig. Gen. Israel B. Richardson, U. S. Volunteers, July 4, 1802. [Died of wounds received at the battle

Brig. Gen Jesse L. Reno, U. S. Volunteers, July 18 1862. [Killed in the battle of South Mountain.]
Brig. Gen. Joseph K. F. Mansfield, U. S. Army, Jul
18, 1862. [Died of wounds received in the battle of Autietam. Brig. Gen. Isaac J. Stevens, U. S. Volunteers, July 1862. [Killed in the battle of Chantilly.]

TO BE BRIGADIER GENERAL. Capt. W. R. Terrell, Fifth U. S. Artillery, December 862. [Killed in the battle of Perryville.]

FEDERAL RAID THROUGH, YAZOO PASS

From the Vicksburg Whig of February 19. Considerable danger seems to be apprehended by a poion of the community from the movement of the enemy into the interior of Mississippi, via the Yazoo Pass, but we have heard a number of gentlemen, who profess to be well acquainted with the nature of the water courses that must be navigated, give it as their opinion that but little will b accomplished, except a disturbance for a short time of our

collecting supplies in the country threatened.

The passage from the Mississippi to Moon Lake is two
miles in length; thence on the lake to the mouth of the pass, nine miles; thence through the pass proper to Cold water river, eighteen miles. The latter is narrow an deep, and some obstructions by falling timber had been made, and the work was progressing. The enemy's bosts passed through the pass with their forces, a heavy land force marching on either side, and in advance of the boats. On Sunday morning the land forces reached the Coldwater, and it was expected the boats would arrive during the day. Our forces, engaged in adding to the obstructions, were driven back and compelled to abandon the work, and reached the mouth of the Coldwater on Sunday. The land forces of the enemy are estimated at eight or

We are confident that energetic steps have been take to provide against the raid in this direction, but knowing the importance of repelling it, and the great disaster it would be to our arms in Mississippi if allowed to be successful, we urge the utmost exertions on the part of our leaders. The water is falling slowly, and the fee may be entrapped, when a sufficient force can bag the whole party.

The iron-clad Monitor Keokuk and the gunboat E. B. Hale sailed from the port of New York yesterday morning.

SUPPOSED ATTACK ON FORT MCALLISTER.

Accounts from Port Royal to nearly noon of the 3d nstant state that very beavy firing had been heard all that morning in the direction of Ogeechee river. It was supposed to be an attack of the Union forces on Fort Mc-Allister.

DESTRUCTION OF THE NASHVILLE. The famous rebel steamer Nashville was destroyed in the Ogeechee river, on the 28th ultimo, by Capt. Worden, of the Montank. Late in the preceding day the Nashville was seen to be getting under way, and shortly afterwards she steamed down to the obstructions in front of the batshe steamed down to the obstructions in front of the battery on Genesis Point, as though desireus of coming out.

SAVANNAH, MARCH 3, 5.30 P. M.—A despatch from Fort McAllister, dated 3.46, says that one of the iron-clads Before getting in range of the Montauk's guns she put has withdrawn. Two iron clads and one morter boat are back sgain, but was observed to heave to before reaching the suspicion that she was aground, and, the fact having been assertained by been ascertained by a reconnoissance during the night, she was attacked early the next morning. After the proper elevation was obtained a few shots blew up her magazine, and sent masts, spars, machinery, and guns flying in all directions. Meanwhile the heavy rebel battery on Genesis Point was not idle. Astream of iron balls splashed the water over the Montauk and glauced barmlessly from the re doubtable turret. Nobody was hurt. But as the Montauk returned to her old station she ran over a torpedo, which exploded under her bottom, and is said to have lifed her two feet upward. She, however, suffered no serious in jury. The only harm done was a trifling derangement of the machinery, which could be repaired without difficulty

THE MILITARY PREPARATIONS. A Port Royal letter of the 3d instant says that Genera Hunter is energetically preparing the forces in his department for the forthcoming campaign, and the officers under him appear not to have an idle moment. The Hunter-Foster difficulty is over. The brigades and regiments o Gen. Foster's corps have been incorporated with those of Gen. Hunter's department, and all minds apparently are now bending their attention and energies to the great object of the campaign.

EAST TENNESSEE

The annexed notes, which have been kindly obtained for us by the Hon. Horace Maynard, containing a topographi cal and geographical description of the district of country embracing and bordering on the central range of the great Appalachian chain of mountains, present in a striking light the military value of the region of East Tennessee, and the great importance of holding military possession of it.

Extracts from the notes of Prof A. Guyot, of Princeton. N. J., on the Mountain District of Western North Carolina. From what has been said, it is obvious that the advantages which the possession of that high mountainous country of the neighboring valley of Tennessee offer in a military point of view are very great.

It rises like a vest citadel from the surrounding platform which constitutes the larger portion of the States of North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, and Kentucky.

An army settled in the large and fertile valley of East Tennessee, where it can be abundantly provided, can easily occupy, by very moderate forces, all the mountainous region and all its available passes across the Blue Ridge, and thus keep, as it were, the keys of the doors to each of all the Southern States just mentioned.

It can thus threaten from within every one of those States and their capitals; keep at bay any opposing forces in the low country, and prevent their being concentrated. It cuts in two the Confederacy from east to west.

It can easily become master of all great railroad comm nications between the southeast and southwest Southern States. The possession of the central artery of the Virginis and Tennessee Railroad had to be completed by that of Dalton, and especially Atlanta, which is the point of in tersection of the railroad from Charleston and Savannah to tersection of the railroad from Charleston and Savannah to Chattanoega, Tennessee, and Montgomery, Alabama. This occupation would be all the more easy from the fact that though Atiants lies beyond the last spurs, and outside of the Blue Ridge and the mountain region, the way to it is entirely open from the Great Valley of East Tennessee. The Frog Mountain and the Blue Ridge are not connected with the Lookout and Raccoon Mountains, which are the southern end of the western table lands, by any mountain ridge. The Great Valley continues between the two mounridge. The Great Valley continues between the two mountsin masses without obstruction into the undulating plains sloping to the Gulf, (for such cannot be called a light swell,) and hills dividing the waters between Cleaveland, Tennesee, and Dalton, Georgia, and through which the Georgia
and Tennessee Railroad passes. This is, therefore, the
broad and natural exit of the Great Valley, much more than

From Dalton to Atlanta there are along the railroad line o serious obstructions.

At the same time the great central artery, the Tennes ee

and Virginia Railroad, is cutting its way into the very heart of Virginia itself. The way is entirely open along the Great Valley, which continues without the slightest interruption into the basin of the New river as far as Christiansburg. The occupation of that long and open valley from Abing, don to Newbern and the New river, could be secured by keeping the defiles of the Alleghanies near Christiansburg. This, with the occupation of its parallel valley of the Clinch river, would secure the entire of southwest Virginia

and the Cumberland Mountain Gaps.

The only thing requisite for the efficiency and safety of an army thus located in East Tennessee would be to keep open the line of railroad between Nashville and Chattanooga to Central Tennessee, and that of the Cumberland Gap or any one of the Gaps south of it, in the neighbor-hood, communicating on the Northwest with Kentucky and

For this purpose the immediate construction of a good military road leading from Central Kentucky, with a branch road from Ohio, through one of the Cumberland Mountain Gaps, should be considered a matter of first importance, i

not absolute necessity.

It is no mean part of the importance of that elevated region for military purposes that the climate is such as to llow an army to remain throughout the year without fear f a sickly season.

The army that will possess and safely keep that central stronghold must keep at bay the forces of the aurrounding In fine, should the rebellion ever be overcome in the

ower country, the occupation of that mountain region will to a great extent, prevent its leaders from the possibility of taking a refuge in it, and from these indefinitely prolong

GENERAL ROSECRANS

Gen. Rosecrans lately wrote a very proper letter to Gen. Joseph E. Johnston, of the rebel army, making complaint of certain outrages, the nature of which is shown by the following extract:

"I know that no success would compensate for the degradation and shame that I should feel in allowing my troops to sneak in behind a flag of truce to make a cap-ture; or allowing them to go into battle dressed in your uniforms and carrying your colors; or in robbing your surgeons of their private property; all of which was done by Gen. Bragg's troops before the battle of Stone river. by class is a copy of a list of thirty-eight medical officers robbed. Enclosed also is the statement of the Rev. Chap-lain Gaddis, showing that, under the tacit if not active sanction of Gen. Wheeler, a hospital boat, loaded with desperately wounded and sick soldiers, was fired into by mus cetry and artillery.'

This letter was returned by the very Gen. Wheelet complained of, on the ground that the language referring to his Commanding General (Bragg) "indicates so little regard for the courtesies that are presumed to govern gen tlemen in their intercourse." Not to be put off in this way, Gen. Rosecrans transmitted the letter through another channel to Gen. Johnston, enclosing duplicates of the lists spoken of in his first, and with a new note, from which we take the following:

"I presume your customs do not warrant subordinate in stopping communications addressed to their superior commanders. Nor is it necessary to call attention to the discourtesy of an officer of high rank who had the meanness to stop such a communication, and to abstract from the enclosure, which he presumed to return, because he was unwilling to forward it, the papers referring to his

Van Sandford, District Attorney of Rensselser county, was wasting at East Albany (on Friday) the departure of the wailing at East Albany (on Friday) the departure of the train for Troy, while standing behind a car on the track, a train backed up against the car, knocking him down and passing over him. The wheel caught him, and he was dragged along till the body was horribly mutilated and the arm torn off. He survived several minutes, quite sensible, and communicated to his triends his farewell to his wife and family. Mr. V. S. was a gentleman of fine literary tastes, the author of a life of Sir Philip Sidney and other works. He was also the author of several standard law books, and held a high rank in his profession. He was a books, and held a high rank in his profession. He was a member of the Assembly from Columbia county in 1852 and from Reusselser county in 1856, and held other positions of honor .- Albany Argus.

LATE SOUTHERN NEWS.

The correspondent of the Associated Press at the Head quarters of the Army of the Potomse communicates the following rebel news, derived from Richmond papers of the 4th, 5th, and 6th instant :

THE ATTACK ON FORT M'ALLISTER SAVANNAH, MARCH 3, 10 P. M .- The enemy are at tacking Fort McAllister. The attack commenced at thirty minutes past eight o'clock this morning. Three iron-clads and two mortar boats are playing on the fort. Our eightinch columbiad has been dismounted—two men slightly wounded. The firing continues very heavy.

atill playing on the fort. The fort is uninjured, and no one is hurt on our side except the two slightly wounded early

SAVANNAH, MARCH 4 .- The enemy shelled Fort Mc Allister all last night, till near day.

This morning a despatch from the fort, dated 6 A. M says: The enemy have not renewed the attack this more ing. Their vessels are still in the river. The fort is in good condition. The columbiad is remounted, and no further casualt es are reported at the fort.

FROM PORT HUDSON. PORT HUDSON, (LA) FEB. 25, via Mobile, March 2. A Yankee force of four thousand strong is marching to ward Lorgansa. The advance guard, one thousand strong is at Amite river, twelve miles from this place. This is deemed an important movement, and doubtless promp steps will be taken to arrest it.

PORT HUDSON, FEB. 27 .- Col. Mille's Legion, th Fourth Louisiana, Col. Hunter, and Feonery's Battery drove the Yankees from Point Coupee. The enemy ignominiously retreated at the appearance of our forces. The reported force of the enemy at Baton Rouge is thirty

CHARLESTON, MARCH 3 .- Nassau advices report the arrival there of the Confederate privateer Retribution. She had taken and burnt the barque Mary Wright, of Portland, and brig Erie, of Camden, Maine; captured and sent to Confederate ports the brig Elliott, of Bucksport, Maine, and echooner Hanover, of Massachusetts; also captured and run ashore on the Bahamas the brig Emily Fisher, taking the crew prisoners to Nassau. The Elliott was subsequently recaptured by the Yankees at St. Thomas. The Retribution encountered an unknown whaler in the Caribbara sea which stowed fight killing one on the Bahamas and which stowed fight killing one on the Bahamas and which stowed fight killing one on the Bahamas and which stowed fight killing one on the Bahamas and which stowed fight killing one on the Bahamas and which stowed fight killing one on the Bahamas and which stowed fight killing one on the Bahamas and the Caribbean rea, which showed fight, killing one on the Re-tribution, when the whaler was sunk with all on board, by the fire of the Retribution. The crew of the Retribu-tion are all well, and she would soon finish repairs and resume ber cruise.

HIGH PRICE OF GOLD.

The Richmond Dispatch of March 5th says, in its mo article: "There has been an extraordinary advance in the premium on gold since our last report. On Saturday last it was sold at \$2 50 and \$2 60, advancing during the day, and yesterday it went up like a rocket until it reached \$3, being an advance of forty per cent. Silver was affected in like manner to-day. The market was more quiet, but the advance was fully maintained. Various causes for this advance was fully maintained. Various causes for this sudden advance in specie are assigned, but it is doubtless chiefly owing to the demand from blockade runners, and foreigners leaving the Confederacy. Bank notes have also advanced, the brokers selling at fifty per cent. premium. Sterling exchange is held at \$2.60."

THE MYSTERY OF THE INDIANOLA

The Richmond Dispatch of March 6th says: "The Indianola, which was captured recently from th Yankees, was blown up last Tuesday night by the rebels and her guns fell into the bands of the Federals. The Queen of the West left in such a hurry as to leave part of her crew on shore.'

A later despatch says that the Indianola is not destroyed, and that they are raising her.

An attack is daily expected on Port Hudson by the force under Gen. Banks.

The Federal gunboats are working great destruction of Lake Providence The Richmond Enquirer of the 6th instant has the fol

MOBILE, MARCH 5 .- The Jackson Mississippian says that the destruction of the Indianola was a most unneces sary and unfortunate affair. The turreted monster proved to be a flat boat, with sundry fixtures to create tion. She passed Vicksburg on Tuesday night, and the officers of the Indianola, believing she was really a tur reted monster, blew the Indianola up, but the guns fell into the hands of the enemy.

The Queen of the West left in such a hurry as to forget

a part of her crew, who were left on shore.

THE PRINCESS ROYAL. The Enquirer has a ludicrous article on the loss of the Princess Royal. She was fitted out by a Manchester firm, to whom the Confederate Government is under many obligations for past favors. It publishes a manifest of her cargo, which foots up 78,308 pounds sterling.

FROM VICKSBURG AND ARKANSAS claimed that any parties firing upon unarmed vessels shall

The Jackson Mississippian correspondent says there are only two thousand Union troops in Arksnsas. Generals Holmes and Hindman are at Little Rock, and there is a demand among the rebel troops for their removal, and fighting Generals to be put in their places.

AFFAIRS NEAR CHARLESTON.

Correspondence of the Boston Herald. OFF CHARLESTON, FEB. 28 .- A few days ago a small steamer, flying the Fr. nch flag at her peak, and a flag of truce, came outside of Fort Sumter with the view, it was thought, of communicating with the Flag Officer of the fleet. But as soon as the blockading ship nearest her began to signalize with the flag ship, the little st-amer with the French flag flying turned about and immediately ran back to the city. This no doubt was an attempt on the part of the rebels to get outside, in order to have a good look at the ships and batteries which have been added to

During the past three days two more Monitors have ar rived. About seventy-five schooners are at anchor near the encampments on Bay Point, freighted with artillery, ammunition, &c. Nine mortar schooners, with mortare mounted, also lay within eight of the encampme A boat expedition of sailors and troops, all well armed, is under weigh, and will leave in a night or two on a secret expedition. The result of the same I shall end-avor rm you.

Many of the negroes have become tired of freedom, and a number have absconded, previously giving their friends to understand that they liked plantation life better. Within the past six mouths large numbers of them have been employed on board Government ships, tugs, &c., and they have been found to be so dirty, lazy, and worthless that it became necessary to discharge them and turn them over to the tender mercies of the provest marshal of Port

The rebel rams have made their appearance outside of Fort Sumter again, but they did not venture to engage our fleet. The injuries received by the Keystone State, in the late rebel raid, have been repaired and she has rejoined the fleet.

THE MEDITERRANEAN SQUADRON. The following is an extract from a naval officer's letter. dated on board the U. S. steam gunboat Chippewa, off Algesiras, 16th January, 1863:

"An English officer, who is married to a relative of the late Commodore Shaw, of the United States navy, informs me that a project is on foot in England, superintended by Maury, of the rebel navy, to capture the United States squadron on the Mediterranean station with iron-clad vessels, now said to be nearly ready for sea. The movements of our ships are watched, and we sometimes learn from the London Times of movements made in this squadron. The English officer told me that the resiring of the Sumter and our capture constitute the first act in the drams, and then the capture of the Const-llation or St. Louis, or both, or their destruction if they refused to surrender. I saw the Sumter under steam a few hours after the consultation with "An English officer, who is married to a relative of the Sumter under steam a few hours after the consultation with the Englishman, who, in shaking hands with me, said: 'Your storeship is watched, as Semmes left a diagram of her with a Welsh captain, who gave it to the rebel sympathizers in Piymouth.' I fear that the Release, which we expect here about the 1st of April, is in danger. She had a narrow escape from the Alabama before. We have to a narrow escape from the Alabama before. We have to keep out of English waters in any encounter with the Sunter. Our Navy Department shou'd try and send some iron clad vessels here, if possible."

ARANDONED SOUTHERN PRODUCE. The President declined to sign the bill having for its ob-

ject the collection of the Southern agricultural staples, and for their transfer to the markets of the North, where they SHOCKING AND FATAL ACCIDENT .- As the Bon. Geo. for their transfer to the markets of the North, where they were to be sold on Treasury account. In the discussion of this bill it was stated by Republican Senators that it had been prepared by Secretaries Stanton and Chase. Originally it provided that the agents of the Government should purchase Southern products, and the provision was supported by Mr. Howard and other Republican Senators, on the ground that a friendly inducement was thereby held out to rebels to return to their old relations with the people of the North. But this particular provision was struckeut, and the bill as it passed provided that the artices were to be collected merely and sent to Northern markets for disposal. It was stated in debate that officers of the army had made large sums in purchasing cotton and sending it to the Loyal States by returning trains of army wagons and cars.

THE WAR IN TENNERSEE.

NASHVILLE, MARCH 5.-The enemy, under Van Dorn; advanced again towards Franklin yesterday. The Union force also advanced six miles and drove the rebels back. Two men were wounded. The rebels lost thirteen killed. The fight was renewed this morning. No particulars have

been received. [See below.] Twenty-three men of Col. Jackson's Tennessee Regiment, while on picket duty west of Nolensville, were at tacked by fifty Confederate cavalry, who tried to surround and capture them. The Tennesseans, after twenty minutes' fighting, compelled the rebels to surrender, took the whole party prisoners, and arrived in this city

to-night. Reinforcements for Gen. Gilbert, at Franklin, have been sent forward sufficiently large to destroy or capture Van Dorn's command.

It is reported that about one thousand rebel cavalry de in the vicinity of Harpeth shoals, waiting to attack steam-

LOSS OF THREE UNION REGIMENTS.

NASHVILLE, MARCH 6 .- There was a fight all day yesterday between Van Dorn's command and a United States force of three regiments of infantry, about five hundred cavalry, and one battery, at Springville, thirteen miles south of Franklin. Col. Coburn's three regiments of infautry were either cut to pieces or captured by the rebel force. They fought desperately, but their amountain became exhausted, and they were overpowered by superior numbers. The cavalry and artillery got off safely. No reinforcements from Gen. Gilbert at Franklin reached the scene of action. There are seven United States regiments at that place. Van Dorn is reported to have eigh teen thousand men under his command.

A RUMOR FROM VICKSBURG. NEW YORY, MARCH 6 -A Cairo letter of the 3d instant mentions a rumor that the whole of Porter's fleet had run by Vicksburg.

enty years. SUPPOSED REBEL PRIVATEER.

Jno. Anthon, an eminent lawyer, died to-day, aged sev-

NEW YORK, MARCH 6 .- The Post of this evening states that the Northern Light was chased on Tuesday morning off the coast of Florida by a propeller steamer which, when first seen, carried a signal of distress, but subsequently gave chase to the Northern Light, and continued it until a Federal war vessel hove in sight. Some of the officers of the Northern Light decline to admit that it is positive vessel was a privateer.

THE STEAMER NASHVILLE DESTROYED

The Richmond Examiner of the 2d instant has the folowing despatch stating the particulars of the destruction the famous rebel steamer Nashville:

NASHVILLE, FEBRUARY 28, 1863.

The steamer Nashville in coming up the Ogeochee river last night grounded on the sand bar before Fort McAllister, and was discovered by the Yankee fleet. A Yankee icon-clad opened fire across the marsh at the Nashville at thirty minutes past seven o'clock, and continued it until ten o'clock, when an incendiary shell struck the Nashville and set her on fire, and she is now a total wreck. The fort fired upon the iron-clad and hit her twice. The other gunbouts of the fleet fired at the fort, but did no damage. NASHVILLE, FEBRUARY 28, 1863

FIRE AT LAKE PROVIDENCE.

CINCINNATI, MARCH 5 .- Boats from Lake Provider eport an extensive conflagration on Wednesday, which was originated by the negroes building a fire on a wooden floor. The fismes spread from house to house, until every business place in the town was destroyed, together with a considerable amount of Government commissary stores.

THE INDIANOLA.

MEMPHIS, MARCH 3 —The Indianols was captured nder circumstances that lead to the belief that she was unnec-ssarily surrendered. Last Friday the Indianols and Queen of the West were discovered under the guns at Warrenton, both in a condition for effective service. A SOLDIER MOB IN OHIO.

COLUMBUS, MARCH 5 -The editorial office of the Crisis was mobbed to-night by soldiers. The composing room of the same publication, situated in another building, was left undisturbed. Gen. Cuoper has called out the military force under his command to restore order.

NEW YORK, MARCH 6 .- The steamer Northern Light has arrived from Aspinwall. She brings two millions two hundred and eighty thousand dollars in tressure, including one million to United States Subtreasurer Cisco. She was

convoyed by the gunboat Connecticut.

FROM CENTRAL AMERICA. New York, March 6 .- Advices by the steamer North-New York, MARCH 6.—Advices by the steamer North-ern Light state that President Carrera, of Masemala, had invaded Salvador, with which country war was declared. He has about six thou-and men. The Salvadorians under President Barrions have about the same number, and a conflict is expected in a few days at Coquetepeque, a po-sition fort fied by French officers, and made almost impreg-nable by art and racture.

pable by art and nature. The British Minister was uring every exertion to stop the war. A report says that Carrera had intercepted his message to the United States Minister at Salvador. The United States steamer Narraganests and alcohol. The United States steamer Narragansett and sloop-of-war St. Mary's are at Panama.

MUNICIPAL ELECTION IN ALEXANDRIA. An election was held on Tuesday for municipal officers f the city of Alexandria. The vote was extremely small, only one hundred and one votes being cast in the four wards for Mayor. The candidates were Walter L. Penn and Charles A. Ware. The vote stood, Ware, 67; Penn, 34; electing the former by 33 majority. The following gentlemen had no opposition: Reuben Johnston, for Auditor; S. F. Beach, for Corporation Attorney; and Robert Bell,

Jr., for Surveyor.

Lewis McKenzie, A. Jamieson, S. F. Beach, and J. P. Agnew were elected Aldermen; and S. Baker, G. Hults, J. F. Carlin, C. L. Nesle, J. L. Dyson, C. B. Shirley, J. R. Sherwood, A. Moran, John Moore, J. ff. Tacey, J. C. Clark, S. N. Garwood, W. D. Massey, H. S. Martin, Wm. Arnold, and S. L. C. Sidebottom, members of the Common Council.

SECEDERS IN THE INDIANA LEGISLATURE.

A telegram has informed our readers of the interruption of legislation in Indiana, caused by the retirement of the Republican members to prevent the passage of a bill alleged to be unconstitutional. The Indianapolis Sentinel of Saturday makes the following statement:

Saturday makes the following statement:

"The Republican members, with the exception of four, failed to resume their seats in the House or Representatives yesterday, and consequently left that body without a quorum to do business, or to consider the matter about which there is a contest. No legislation of any kind can now be transacted till the seceders shall return to their duty. With but six working days left of the present session, these gentlemen have assumed a fearful responsibility, and the people will beld them to a strict account.

"These absconding gentlemen assign no reason for this wilful and criminal absence from their seats in the House, but there are vague rumors that they fear' that the Democrats intend to pass the militia bill, now pending to that body, a measure perfectly innocent in itself, and the prominent features of which are, that it confers the right upon those enrolled under it to elect their own officers, (company and regimental,) and reserves to the General Assembly its 'constitutional' right to say in what manner major generals and brigadier generals shall be appointed.

"This is the plain atory, and if these Republicans are afraid to trust the fighting boys with the selection of their own officers, and the representatives of the people with their incontestible right of passing wholesome and salutary, laws, the Democrats are not. Whenever the minority shall aim to overturn legislation by acts of revolution they will place themselves in the same category with Mr. Jefferson Davis and his confederates in crime against constitutions and laws."

THE SECESSIONISTS AT MADISON.

INDIANAPOLIS, MARCH 2.—Thirty-two of the bolting members are in Madison. A large meeting of Union citizens of that place on Saturday night justified their withdrawal from the House. The caucus has decreed that the House shall not adjourn sine die, but shall sit from day to day, without a quorum. A resolution to compel the attendance of absentees was voted down. It is not probable that they will come back, and the General Assembly will adjourn on Monday, without passing any appropriation bills, except one to pay their own per diem, mil and clerk hire. A quorum still exists in the Senate, and several bills were passed to-day.